

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for applying a hot melt adhesive in a melted state to a surface of a substrate, the method comprising the steps of:

preparing a hot melt adhesive, which is a urethane reactive hot melt adhesive and melts in a temperature range of 100 to 130°C;

conveying a ~~[[the]]~~ substrate which is a wood board at a predetermined speed;

rotating an applicator roller, which is covered with the hot melt adhesive in a melted state, in the direction which the substrate is moved on a conveyer and at a circumferential speed at least 20% slower or at least 20% faster than the predetermined speed of the substrate ~~at which the substrate is conveyed~~ to cause the roller ~~[[it]]~~ to slip; and

contacting one surface of the substrate and the applicator roller ~~[:]~~ to form the hot melt adhesive forming an adhesive layer on the substrate from the hot melt adhesive.

Claim 2 (original): The method for applying a hot melt adhesive to a surface of a substrate according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer is formed by applying a plurality of coatings of the hot melt adhesive.

Claim 3 (original): The method for applying a hot melt adhesive to a surface of a substrate according to claim 1, wherein the circumferential speed of the applicator roller is set to be less than the predetermined speed at which the substrate is conveyed, with a

speed reduction ratio ranging from 20% to 80% and equal to (conveying speed of substrate - circumferential speed of applicator roller) x 100 / conveying speed of substrate.

Claim 4 (original): A substrate obtained by the method for applying a hot melt adhesive to a surface of a substrate according to claims 1 to 3.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A device for coating a substrate by applying a hot melt adhesive in a melted state to a surface of a substrate, the device comprising:

a means for conveying a [[the]] substrate, which is a wood board, at a predetermined speed; and

an applicator roller for applying a [[the]] hot melt adhesive in a melted state, which adhesive is a urethane reactive hot melt adhesive and melts in a temperature range of 100 to 130°C, wherein

the applicator roller rotates in a direction that the substrate is conveyed, and the applicator roller ~~slipping~~ slips by rotating at a circumferential speed at least 20% slower or at least 20% faster than the predetermined speed at which the substrate is conveyed.

Claim 6 (original): The device for coating a substrate according to claim 5, wherein the means for conveying the substrate is a backing roller positioned opposite the applicator roller so as to pinch the substrate or is a conveyor belt with a vacuum chucking mechanism.

Claim 7 (original): The device for coating a substrate according to claim 5, wherein the applicator roller comprises a plurality of stages of applicator rollers arranged along the conveying direction of the substrate, with either the rear stage applicator roller positioned downstream in the conveying direction of the substrate or front stage applicator roller positioned upstream in the conveying direction of the substrate being a rubber roller.

Claim 8 (original): The device for coating a substrate according to claim 5, wherein nipping mechanisms are provide upstream and downstream in the conveying direction of applicator roller to nip and convey the substrate.

Claim 9 (original): The device for coating a substrate according to claim 8, wherein the nipping mechanism positioned downstream in the conveying direction of the applicator roller is provided with a laminating roller that applies a laminate to the side of the substrate coated with adhesive.

Claim 10 (original): A method for producing a laminated object, the method comprising the steps of:

conveying the substrate at a predetermined speed;

contacting one surface of the substrate and the applicator roller;

rotating an applicator roller covered with hot melt adhesive in a melted state at a circumferential speed at least 20% slower or at least 20% faster than the predetermined

speed at which the substrate is conveyed to cause it to slip; and

applying a laminate on the adhesive layer.

Claim 11 (original): The method of producing a laminated object according to claim 10, wherein the adhesive is applied by a plurality of applicator rollers.

Claim 12 (original): The method of producing a laminated object according to claim 10, wherein the substrate is a wood board, the adhesive is urethane reactive hot melt adhesive, and the laminate is a film or a decorative paper.

Claims 13-14 (cancelled):

Claim 15 (new): The method for applying a hot melt adhesive to a surface of a substrate according to claim 1, wherein a clearance between the applicator roller and a backing roller is 99% to 95% of the thickness of the substrate.

Claim 16 (new): The method for applying a hot melt adhesive to a surface of a substrate according to claim 1, wherein the urethane reactive hot melt adhesive which melts in a temperature range of 100 to 130°C has a viscosity of 1,000 to 30,000 mPa•s.

Claim 17 (new): The device for coating a substrate according to claim 5, wherein

a clearance between the applicator roller and a backing roller is 99% to 95% of the thickness of the substrate.

Claim 18 (new): The device for coating a substrate according to claim 5, wherein the urethane reactive hot melt adhesive which melts in a temperature range of 100 to 130°C has a viscosity of 1,000 to 30,000 mPa•s.